

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASH DC 0178
AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 4267

ROME FOR VATICAN OFFICE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV VT RO
SUBJECT: VATICAN/ROMANIA: POGGI ARRIVAL, STATUS OF UNIATES
REF: ROME 11322

1. ITALIAN COUNSELOR SCARPA INFORMED JUNE 19 THAT POGGI IS
TO ARRIVE JUNE 20, AS REPORTED REFTEL, FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS
ON STATUTO, BUT DISCLAIMED SPECIAL KNOWLEDGE OF STATUS OF
NEGOTIATIONS THEMSELVES.

2. HOWEVER IN ENSUING EXCHANGE ON UNIATES, SCARPA DEFINITELY
CONFIRMED OPINION OF AMERICAN EXCHANGE PROFESSOR WELL VERSED
IN ROMANIAN RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS THAT THERE ARE SOME HUNDREDS OF
THOUSANDS OF SECRET UNIATES STILL IN COUNTRY, AND THAT THEY
HAVE "UNDERGROUND" BISHOPS. FURTHER TO QUESTION, AMERICAN
SOURCE HAD PREVIOUSLY NOTED STRENGTH OF EMIGRE ROMANIAN UNIATE
CLERGY IN VATICAN: ONE OF SURVIVING BISHOPS WHO HAD VISITED
ROMANIA IN RECENT YEARS HAD BEEN REMOVED FROM HIS
POSITION ON RETURN TO ROME AND SUBJECTED TO ACCUSATIONS
OF COLLABORATION. SOURCE IS FURTHER OF OPINION THAT
ROMANIANS, WHILE UNWILLING TO TREAT UNIATE QUESTION
FORMALLY IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH VATICAN, MAY BE MOVING
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TOWARD SOME FORM OF DE FACTO RECOGNITION OF UNIATE
PRACTICES, POSSIBLY INVOLVING TOLERATION OF UNIATE
STUDENTS IN IASI BRANCH (ROMANIAN-LANGUAGE) OF RC
SEMINARY AT ALBA IULIA.

3. COMMENT: AVVENIRE ARTICLE MAY ORIGINATE IN VATICAN
UNIATE CIRCLES ALLUDED TO PARA 2 ABOVE.

AGGREY

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: CHURCH STATE RELATIONS
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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